Lower Hood Canal Area State Park Management Plan

Approved October 2012







Washington State Parks Mission

The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission acquires, operates, enhances, and protects a diverse system of recreational, cultural, and natural sites. The Commission fosters outdoor recreation and education statewide to provide enjoyment and enrichment for all and a valued legacy to future generations.



WASHINGTON STATE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND CONTACTS

The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission gratefully acknowledges the many stakeholders and the staff of Potlatch, Belfair and Twanoh State Parks who participated in public meetings, reviewed voluminous planning materials, and made this a better plan because of it.

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LOWER HOOD CANAL AREA STATE PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN **CERTIFICATE OF ADOPTION**

The signatures below certify the adoption of this document by Washington State Parks for the continued management of Potlatch, Twanoh, Belfair, Lilliwaup Tidelands and Lake Isabella State Parks

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PREFACE

The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission (Commission) manages a diverse array of 120 parks located throughout the state. The parks protect the best of Washington's natural and human heritage, provide access to the great outdoors, and offer learning and inspiration.

The Commission adopted the Centennial 2013 Plan in October 2003, thereby creating a focus intended to energize and bring together the agency, state leadership, and the public. Together we can work toward a parks system all can celebrate as it turns 100 years old and prepares for a second century of service.

Priority Number 1 in the Centennial 2013 Plan "Our Commitment" is fixing up the state parks and recreation services you enjoy today, while looking toward the future. We pursue a vision so that each park will be a premier destination of uncommon quality...outstanding for the experience, health, enjoyment, and learning of all people. Our goal is to a have a land-use plan for 93 parks by Centennial 2013.

Land-use plans follow a process that has been used by the Commission since 1996, called the CAMP project. CAMP is an acronym for Classification and Management Plan. One of the most important elements of land use planning is the classification of lands. In 1995, the Commission adopted a land classification system. Application of the system creates zones, or land classifications, within a park (see Appendix A.) Six distinct classifications determine what recreational uses and facilities are appropriate in different areas of a park. In general, sensitive areas are classified restrictively and allow only low-intensity uses and development of minor facilities. Less sensitive areas are classified to allow higher-intensity uses and more extensive facilities development.

A CAMP brings together park visitors, nearby communities, stakeholders, and State Parks staff in a public process that forges a common vision of what the state park area should become. Through a public process, staff and public participants identify park management issues, look at alternative approaches for addressing them, and make final recommendations. The outcome is this plan that will help focus our efforts to balance resource protection with recreational opportunities. For State Parks' staff, this document represents policy approval and a means to create a state park area that meets the Centennial 2013 Vision.

SUMMARY

The Lower Hood Canal Area state parks provide a wide-range of outdoor recreational pursuits, while preserving valued natural resources. This plan will describe the park land classification and long-term boundary, and prescribe management objectives.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this document is to:

- 1. Orient readers to the park area management plan.
- 2. Identify natural, cultural, and recreation/facility management issues.
- 3. Provide initial direction to park staff (suggested management approaches) to address park issues.

This document is divided into five sections, with several appendices:

Section 1:	Provides a brief overview of the park including its geography, historical backgro	ound,
	najor attributes, and public use.	

- Section 2: Describes the public process that led to the CAMP.
- Section 3: Outlines management objectives established for the park.
- Section 4: Describes land classifications (management zoning) and long-term boundaries.
- Section 5: Lists natural, cultural, and recreational/facility resource issues identified through the public planning and the management approaches for resolving them.

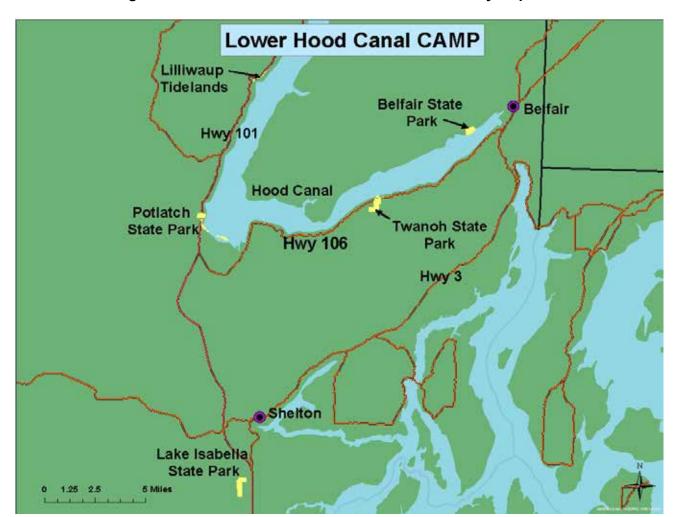


Figure 1. Lower Hood Canal Area State Parks Vicinity Map

SECTION 1: AREA DESCRIPTION

Lower Hood Canal area state parks are located on the southern end of Hood Canal in Mason County. The topics below describe some of the factors that the parks have in common.

Physical Factors

Land area: The following information comes from State Parks' land inventory (November 2010).

Name	Acreage	Shoreline
Belfair State Park	62.45	3,780 feet (saltwater)
Twanoh State Park	182.02	3,167 feet (saltwater)
Potlatch State Park	134.4	9,570 feet (saltwater)
Lake Isabella	194	1,845 feet (freshwater)
Lilliwaup Tidelands	0 (all tidelands)	4,122 feet (saltwater)

Transportation: Regional access to the lower Hood Canal area is by U.S. Highway 101, and state routes 106 and 300.

Public transportation in the area is provided by Mason County Transportation Authority. No bus routes connect directly to any of the state parks.

The closest daily Amtrak passenger services are offered in Lacey, Washington.

The Port of Shelton operates a general aviation facility at Sanderson Field in Shelton.

Political Factors

Legislative District: The state parks are within the 35th Legislative District. At the time this plan was adopted, the district was represented by:

35th Legislative District		
Senator Tim Sheldon	Representative Kathy Haigh	Representative Fred Finn

Jurisdiction: The parks are under county jurisdiction, primarily in district 2. At the time of plan adoption, the county commissioners were:

Mason County Board of Commissioners		
Commissioner Lynda Ring	Commissioner Tim Sheldon,	Commissioner Steve Bloomfield,
Erickson, District 1	District 2	District 3

Natural Factors

Plants and Animals: Endangered and threatened species, critical habitat, candidate species, and species of concern known to occur in Mason County, and may be present in the state parks include:

Listed

Puget Sound Chinook (Oncorhynchus tshawytscha)

Hood Canal summer chum (O. keta)

Bull trout (Salvelinus confluentus)

Killer whale (Orcinus orca)

Marbled murrelet (Brachyramphus marmoratus)

Northern spotted owl (Strix occidentalis caurina)

Designated

Critical habitat for bull trout
Critical habitat for marbled murrelet
Critical habitat for northern spotted owl

Candidate

Fisher (*Martes pennant*) – West Coast DPS
Mazama pocket gopher (*Thomomys mazama* ssp. *couchi*)
Streaked horned lark (*Eremophila alpestris strigata*)

Species of concern

Bald eagle (Haliaeetus leucocephalus)

Cascades frog (Rana cascadae)

Coastal cutthroat trout (Concorhynchus clarki) - SW Washington DPS

Long-eared myotis (*Myotis evotis*)

Long-legged myotis (*Myotis volans*)

Northern goshawk (Accipiter gentilis)

Northern sea otter (Enhydra lutris kenyoni)

Olive-sided flycatcher (Contopus cooperi)

Olympic torrent salamander (*Rhyacotriton olympicus*)

Pacific lamprey (*Lampetra tridentata*)

Pacific Townsend's big-eared bat (Corynorhinus townsendii townsendii)

Peregrine falcon (Falco perergrinus)

River lamprey (Lampetra ayresi)

Tailed frog (Ascaphus truei)

Van Dyke's salamander (Plethodon vandyei)

Western toad (Bufo boreas)

Triangular-lobed moonwort (Botrychium ascendens)

Please note: If the scientific name is mentioned above, it is not repeated in the report.

Park specific factors

The following section describes the physical, operational, political, and regulatory factors affecting the individual parks within the lower Hood Canal region of state parks. Park ranger Joel Pillers is the area manager for the Belfair Area, including Twanoh State Park. His office is at Belfair State Park. Darrela Standfill is the area manager for the Potlatch area, including Lake Isabella and Lilliwaup Tidelands. Her office is at Potlatch State Park.

Belfair State Park

Soils: The general soil types found in the park include Everett gravelly sandy loam, Indianola loamy sand, and tidal marsh. The approximate steepest slope on the site is 5 percent.

Water: Belfair is adjacent to Hood Canal, and Big Mission and Little Mission creeks flow through the park. In addition, the National Wetland Inventory's (NWI) GIS Database indicates estuarine wetlands occur within Belfair, adjacent to Hood Canal. Palustrine wetlands occur adjacent to the creeks. Areas along the shoreline are within the 100 year flood plain, as defined by FEMA flood plain maps.

Water quality: The Department of Ecology website lists Hood Canal adjacent to the park, as well as Little Mission Creek, as impaired by fecal coliform.

Plants: A plant survey has been completed, and no rare species were found. The Natural Heritage Program does not list any endangered, threatened, or sensitive plant species within or nearby the park.

Animals: The Priority Habitat and Species database identifies the following species and/or habitats within 1.5 miles of the park: killer whales (Federally Endangered), Puget Sound Chinook (Federally Threatened), Hood Canal summer chum (Federally Threatened), and bull trout (Federally Threatened), Bald eagle (Federal Species of Concern) and osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) (State Monitor), Waterfowl Concentrations, Eelgrass meadows, Wetlands, and Estuarine zones.

Land and shoreline use: The property is used as a park. Residences, commercial properties, and forestry are uses near the park.

Structures and facilities: The campground has 184 campsites, 47 with utilities and three comfort stations. The day use area has 205 picnic tables, a bathhouse/comfort station, a kitchen shelter, a sports playing field, a 2-mile trail, 290 feet of beach, one horseshoe pit, and a play area. Other facilities include an office/contact station, two residences, a shop, and dump station.

Zoning: The park is zoned Rural-Residential 5.

Comprehensive plan designation: The park is designated as Rural.

Shoreline master program designation: Urban Shoreline Designation.

Recreation: Camping, picnicking, beachcombing, wind surfing, kite flying, fishing, crabbing, shellfish harvesting, swimming, horseshoes, volleyball, badminton, kayaking and canoeing.

Historical and cultural preservation: The park includes a prehistoric archaeological site that is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

Twanoh State Park

Soils: The general soil types found in the park include Alderwood gravelly sandy loam, Coastal Beach, and Everett gravelly sandy loam. The approximate steepest slope on the site is 15 percent.

Water: The park is adjacent to Hood Canal, and Twanoh Creek flows through the park. In addition, the NWI GIS Database indicates estuarine wetlands occur within the park, adjacent to Hood Canal. Palustrine wetlands occur adjacent to the creek. Areas along the shoreline are within the 100 year flood plain, as defined by FEMA flood plain maps.

Water quality: The Department of Ecology website lists Twanoh Creek as impaired by fecal coliform.

Plants: A plant survey has been completed, and no rare species were found. The Natural Heritage Program does not list any endangered, threatened, or sensitive plant species within or nearby the park.

Animals: The Priority Habitat and Species database identifies the following species and/or habitats within 1.5 miles of the park: killer whales (Federally Endangered), Puget Sound Chinook (Federally Threatened), Hood Canal summer chum (Federally Threatened), and bull trout (Federally Threatened).

Land and shoreline use: The property is used as a park. Residences, commercial properties and forestry are uses near the park.

Structures and facilities: Boat dock, 5 mooring buoys, boat pump out facility, 2 launch sites, 580 feet of swim beach, wading pool, 2 bathhouses, day use area with 111 picnic sites, 5 kitchens, concession building, parking for 525 cars, 4 comfort stations, camp area with 22 utility sites, 24 standard sites, and group camp with 15 walk-in sites and 2.4 miles of hiking trails.

Zoning: The park is zoned Rural-Residential 5.

Comprehensive plan designation: Rural designation.

Shoreline master program designation: Urban and Conservancy designation.

Recreation: Picnicking, swimming, hiking, oyster harvesting, boating, water skiing, fishing, camping, crabbing, beachcombing, badminton, horseshoes, volleyball, bird watching, wildlife viewing, smelting, and wind surfing.

Historical and cultural preservation: Many of the structures in the park are more than 75 years old; most were built by the Civilian Conservation Corps. The complex of CCC structures is potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places and will be assessed for inclusion on a register in the near future. Consultation with the Skokomish Indian Tribe indicates that a Place name, *ha"capqs*, occurs within the park.

Potlatch State Park

Soils: The general soil types found in the park include Grove gravelly sandy loam, Hoodsport gravelly sandy loam, Made land, Mukilteo peat, Pilchuck gravelly sandy loam, Puget silt loam, Semiahmoo muck shallow, Skokomish silt loam, Tacoma peat, and tidal marsh. The approximate steepest slopes on the site are 30 to 45 percent.

Water: The park is adjacent to Hood Canal, and Potlatch Creek flows through the park. In addition, the NWI GIS Database indicates estuarine wetlands occur within the park, adjacent to Hood Canal. Palustrine wetlands occur adjacent to the creek. Areas along the shoreline are within the 100 year flood plain, as defined by FEMA flood plain maps.

Water quality: The Department of Ecology website does not list any "Impaired and Threatened Surface Waters" or other water quality alerts for nearby waters.

Plants: A plant survey has been completed, and no rare species were found. The Natural Heritage Program notes an historic location of chain-fern (*Woodwardia fimbriata*), a state-listed sensitive species, within or near the park.

Animals: The Priority Habitat and Species database identifies the following species and/or habitats within 1.5 miles of the park: killer whales (Federally Endangered), Puget Sound Chinook (Federally Threatened), Hood Canal summer chum (Federally Threatened), bull trout (Federally Threatened), and marbled murrelet (Federally Threatened).

Land and shoreline use: The property is used as a park. Residences, commercial properties, and forestry are uses near the park.

Structures and facilities: 1 picnic shelter, 10 standing picnic barbecues, parking for 85 vehicles, comfort station, 5 moorage buoys, 2 water trail sites, mobile home for ranger quarters, shop, 1 comfort station/bathhouse, 31 standard sites, 35 utility sites, 4 hiker/biker sites, 2 host sites, and office.

Zoning: The park is zoned a combination of Rural Tourist and Rural-Residential 20.

Comprehensive plan designation: Rural designation.

Shoreline master program designation: Urban Shoreline designation.

Recreation: Picnicking, shellfish harvesting, fishing, camping, wind surfing, kayaking, and SCUBA diving.

Historical and cultural preservation: The park includes a prehistoric archaeological site that is listed on the State and National Registers of Historic Places.

Lake Isabella

Soils: The general soil types found in the park include Bellingham silt loam, Cloquallum silt loam, Mukilteo peat, Shelton gravelly sandy loam. The approximate steepest slope on the site is 15 to 30 percent.

Water: The park is adjacent to Lake Isabella. The lake is classified as a lacustrine wetland, while palustrine wetlands are found near the lake and near the southwestern park boundary. The area adjacent to Lake Isabella within the Lake Isabella property is located within the 100-year flood plain of the lake, as defined by FEMA flood plain maps.

Water quality: The Department of Ecology website lists Mill Creek, a tributary of Lake Isabella, as temperature impaired.

Plants: A plant survey has been completed and no rare or state threatened species were found. The Natural Heritage Program indicates the presence of blunt-leaved pondweed (*Potamogeton obtusifolius*), a state-listed sensitive species, in the lake near State Parks property.

Animals: The Priority Habitat and Species database identifies the following species and/or habitats within 1.5 miles of the park: bald eagle (Federal Species of Concern, State Sensitive).

Land and shoreline use: The property is used as a park. Residences, commercial properties, and forestry are uses near the park.

Structures and facilities: Storage building, vault toilet.

Zoning: The park is zoned Rural-Residential 5.

Comprehensive plan designation: Rural designation.

Shoreline master program designation: Urban Shoreline designation.

Recreation: Hiking, bicycling, picnicking, disc golfing.

Historical and cultural preservation: The park includes historic archaeological resources that meet the minimum age requirement (50 years) for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, but they have not been evaluated by the State Historic Preservation Officer.

Lilliwaup Tidelands

Soils: The general soil type found in the park Hoodsport gravelly sandy loam. The approximate steepest slope on the site is 45 percent.

Water: The park is adjacent to Hood Canal. In addition, the NWI GIS Database indicates estuarine wetlands occur within the park, adjacent to Hood Canal. The property is within the 100 year flood plain, as defined by FEMA flood plain maps.

Water quality: The Department of Ecology website does not list any "Impaired and Threatened Surface Waters" or other water quality alerts for nearby waters.

Plants: The Natural Heritage Program does not list any threatened or sensitive plant species within or nearby the park.

Animals: The Priority Habitat and Species database identifies the following species and/or habitats within 1.5 miles of the park: bald eagle (Federal Species of Concern, State Sensitive), Band-tailed pigeon (*Columba fasciata*) mineral spring, coastal salt marshes, waterfowl concentration area, and elk winter range.

Land and shoreline use: The property is used as a park. Residences, commercial properties, and forestry are uses near the park.

Structures and facilities: Stairway to beach

Zoning: The park is zoned Rural-Residential 5.

Comprehensive plan designation: Rural designation.

Shoreline master program designation: Urban Shoreline designation.

Recreation: Shellfish harvesting, crabbing, beachcombing, fishing, and wildlife viewing.

Historical and cultural preservation: No archaeological sites or historic structures are presently recorded within the park.

SECTION 2: PARK PLANNING PROCESS

The CAMP for the Lower Hood Canal Area began in March of 2006 with the selection of a core planning team comprised of the park managers of each respective park property, Southwest Region staff, Puget Sound Region staff, and Headquarters staff. The planning team also consulted with a number of other agency and organization technical specialists. These advisors included representatives from the Hood Canal Coordinating Council (HCCC), Skokomish Tribe, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), Washington Department of Health (WDOH), Mason County Parks and Recreation, Mason Conservation District, WSU Mason County Extension, Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group, and local landowners.

Because the parks are separated along Hood Canal, there was concern about getting a dispersed representation and participation in public meetings. Therefore, for each stage of the planning process, public meetings were held in population centers near the towns of Belfair, Hoodsport, and/or Shelton to cover local and regional interests and concerns about all the park properties.

In March 2006, two initial public workshops were held in Hoodsport and Belfair to explain the CAMP process and identify park issues and desires from our park constituents. A subsequent public workshop was held in June 2007 in Shelton to identify additional issues to address in the planning process. E-mail announcements or post cards were sent to 191 individuals who had expressed interest in the planning process. These park visitors were also directed to the State Parks Lower Hood Canal planning website for additional information on the CAMP progress. CAMP signs were posted at the parks to invite additional input from the visiting public

On September 24, 2007 in Belfair and September 25, 2007 in Shelton, the staff planning team held a second set of public workshops to present and receive specific input on alternative land classifications, long-term park boundaries, and approaches to identified issues. Drawing on the public input, the team then put together preliminary recommendations for parks in the Lower Hood Canal Area. These recommendations were presented to the public on November 14, 2007 in Belfair and November 15, 2007 in Shelton. Comments from these meetings were used to develop final staff recommendations for the land classification and long-term boundaries for the park properties in the Lower Hood Canal Area. The Commission approved these recommendations at its January 18, 2008 meeting. The team incorporated comments and Commission direction into this park management plan.

SECTION 3: PARK OBJECTIVES

During initial stages of planning, staff worked with stakeholders to craft a series of objectives to guide future management of the park.

Management objectives must be consistent with laws, policy and the mission statement of the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission that reads:

The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission acquires, operates, enhances, and protects a diverse system of recreational, cultural, historical, and natural sites.

The Commission fosters outdoor recreation and education statewide to provide enjoyment and enrichment for all and a valued legacy to future generations.

Likewise, the Centennial 2013 Vision gives guidance to what state parks should be as the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission begins its second century of service:

In 2013, Washington's state parks will be premier destinations of uncommon quality, including state and regionally significant natural, cultural, historical and recreational resources that are outstanding for the experience, health, enjoyment and learning of all people.

Management Objectives for Lower Hood Canal Area Parks

Natural Resources

- Protect and responsibly manage shellfish and other estuarine and intertidal resources.
- Provide and protect habitat for salmon species, including passage between Hood Canal and freshwater habitat.
- Maintain and enhance habitat for native species.

Cultural Resources

- Identify, monitor, interpret, and protect significant cultural features of the park, including Native
 American archaeological sites, cultural landscapes, and traditional cultural practice areas, as well
 as historic structures and landscapes associated with early homesteading/agriculture and
 Depression era Civilian Conservation Corps park development.
- Collect, record, and interpret oral history, folklore, and artifacts related to the parks and their cultural role in the lower Hood Canal community.

Recreational Resources

- Provide an array of compatible, quality day-use and overnight recreational opportunities that are inspired by and in harmony with the park's natural and cultural resources.
- Provide park visitor services through public/private partnerships and other entrepreneurial programs that are clearly compatible with other park management objectives.

SECTION 4: PARK LONG-TERM BOUNDARY AND LAND CLASSIFICATION

Long-term park boundary

One of the products of the CAMP is a long-term boundary for each state park. Determining long-term park boundaries is an often misunderstood aspect of park planning. The purpose of a long-term boundary is to take a big picture look at what lands, independent of ownership, might advance the conservation and recreation mission of the park. The planning team considers whether an adjoining property would make a good addition. It also considers whether agency-owned property should be retained or be considered surplus to park needs.

Including privately owned property in a long-term boundary gives State Parks' staff the authority to have discussions that might lead to several types of land transactions. If the landowner is not interested, then it is unlikely those land transactions will ever occur. Sometimes, when property changes hands, the new owner is more interested and transactions can take place. Being in a state park long-term boundary gives property owners one more option when planning for their property.

If the land owner is interested and the property is within a long-term boundary, there are actions available besides land purchase. Among those actions might be one or a combination of the following:

- Seek to formalize an agreement to advance a shared property management goal, such as screening of houses to protect privacy.
- Help establish a conservation easement to protect features that are important to the park visitor's experience and to the landowners' privacy. Conservation easements can decrease a property owner's taxes.
- Accept a donation of all or part of a landowner's property. About 40 percent of the current Washington State Park system is made up of donated properties. Sometimes, this can be of benefit to a person's estate and create a lasting legacy.
- Consider exchanging agency-owned property for private property, either in the area or somewhere else in the state.

Land classification

A land classification is like internal zoning for the park and is regulated by WAC 352-16-020, which reads:

State park areas are of state-wide natural, cultural, and/or recreational significance and/or outstanding scenic beauty. They provide varied facilities serving low-intensity, medium intensity, and high intensity outdoor recreation activities, areas reserved for preservation, scientific research, education, public assembly, and/or environmental interpretation, and support facilities.

State Parks has developed a system of six land classifications. When assigned to a specific area within a park, each classification sets an appropriate intensity for recreational activity and development of facilities. Classifications are aligned along a spectrum ranging from low to high-intensity recreational uses and developments. By classifying park lands, the agency is able to consciously strike a balance between protecting park resources and providing an appropriate variety of recreational opportunities to park visitors.

The agency's land classification system includes six classifications: Natural Area Preserves, Natural/Natural forest Areas, Resource Recreation Areas, Recreation Areas, and Heritage Areas. Detailed definitions of each land classification are provided in Appendix 1.

Maps for the long-term boundary and land classification are provided below in figures 2 through 7, along with a written description. The land classification for the management area is a combination of Recreation (magenta), Heritage (yellow), Resource Recreation (blue), and Natural (orange) areas. The lighter shades of magenta, yellow, blue, and orange indicate that the property is not currently owned by State Parks, but is in the long-term boundary.

Belfair State Park

Land Classification

Belfair is classified as a combination of Recreation, Resource Recreation, and Natural areas.

Possible Trail Link to Theler Wetlands

Possible Trail Link to Theler Wetlands

Figure 2. Belfair State Park Land Classification and Long-Term Boundary

Recreation Areas

The developed camping area and day-use parking areas are high intensity recreation areas with a history of heavy camping and day-use recreation. The largest portion of the park is classified as Recreation to permit intensive recreation opportunities to continue.

Resource Recreation Areas

The Hood Canal tidelands provide the main attraction at Belfair. Shellfish harvesting, kayaking, and swimming draw many park day-use and overnight visitors. The recently rehabilitated nearshore environment, which removed man-made obstructions from the estuary of Big Mission Creek, has created new natural shoreline. These areas can sustain dispersed recreational use and still retain their habitat value for fish, shorebirds, and wildlife. Therefore, the shoreline portions of the park are best protected by the Resource Recreation classification. This classification allows the planting of shellfish and management of the tidelands for harvest.

The long-term boundary at Belfair State Park includes two trail corridors to connect the park with other recreation opportunities. One of the corridors would link the park to the Theler Wetlands located to the east. The other corridor would lead north to connect the park to Tahuya State Forest. The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife property to the west of the park is also included in the park's long-term boundary. The property could be managed for water access, shellfish harvest, and as a water trail site.

These properties in the long-term boundary are classified as Resource Recreation to allow existing hiking, shellfish harvesting, and water access activities. The Commission has also conditionally permitted wind surfing within Belfair's Resource Recreation areas.

Natural Areas

Saltwater marsh along park shorelines is among the park's most significant and fragile natural features. These areas are classified as Natural to limit use to low-intensity only and emphasize salt marsh interpretation.

Twanoh State Park

Land Classifications

Twanoh is classified as a combination of Recreation, Resource Recreation, Heritage, and Natural areas.

Twanoh State Park

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Figure 3. Twanoh State Park Land Classification and Long-Term Boundary

Recreation Areas

The upper group camp, the boat launch area, and the day-use parking area at Twanoh are the high intensity, modern, developed park facilities. The Commission classified these areas as Recreation to permit intensive recreation opportunities to continue.

Resource Recreation Areas

Natural forested areas and riparian areas within the park provide a significant backdrop for the camping experience and healthy habitat for birds and wildlife. Areas that surround the campground and extend into the upper watershed of the park are best protected through classification as Resource Recreation, which permits existing trail activities and allows for future trail planning and development. The trail routes looping through the upper watershed of the park offer a potential to connect with a proposed overland trail system connecting to Mason Lake County Park, several miles northeast. These trail corridors are classified as Resource Recreation to permit existing and potential trail connections, while limiting additional development to that consistent with preservation of adjacent cultural landscapes and natural features.

Heritage Areas

To reflect the park's status as a Civilian Conservation Corps-constructed facility, the majority of the historic park campground and constructed day-use facilities is classified as a Heritage. This area includes the campground, historic bathhouses, and kitchen shelters (excluding the existing paved parking areas). The Heritage classification allows for a shared use hiking, cycling, and equestrian link from parking areas to the upper trail system as part of future trails planning and development. The Commission has also conditionally permitted the following recreational activities: Farming/Orchards, Orienteering, Paragliding, Technical Rock Climbing, White Water Boating, Wind Surfing, Mushing/Sled Dogs, and Snowmobiling (off-trail).

Natural Areas

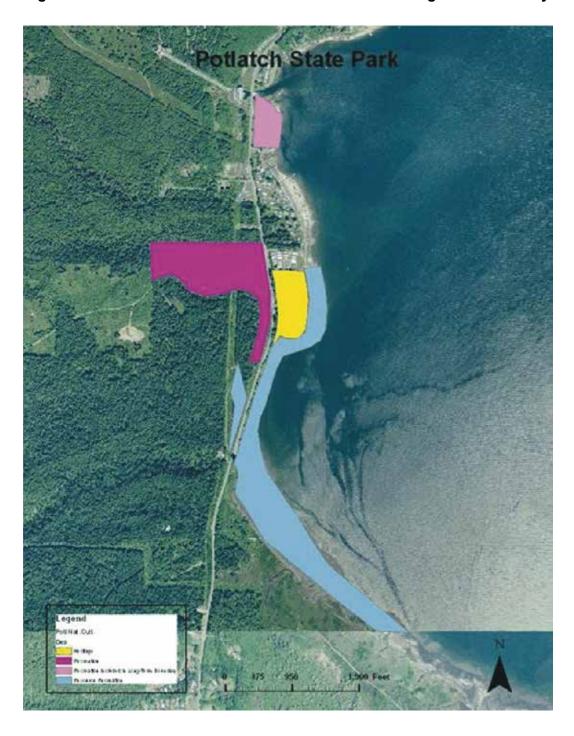
The mature conifer forest surrounding the upland campground and the stream corridor along the west edge of the park are among the park's most significant natural features. The Commission classified these areas as Natural to restrict development and emphasize interpretation.

Potlatch

Land Classifications

Potlatch is classified as a combination of Recreation, Resource Recreation, and Heritage areas.

Figure 4. Potlatch State Park Land Classification and Long-Term Boundary



Recreation Areas

The campground includes 86 campsites. The Commission classified the campground as a Recreation Area to permit camping opportunities to continue. Within the park's long-term boundary, a Recreation Area encompassing the existing Saltwater Boat Launch owned by Tacoma Power has been established. This classification would allow retention and use of the launch if ever acquired by State Parks.

Resource Recreation Areas

Beaches and tidelands fronting the park provide an extremely popular recreation attraction. Visitors access these areas on foot from upland parking areas and by private boats – both hand propelled and powered – to harvest shellfish, beach comb, picnic, and enjoy other traditional beach activities. During the open shellfish season, large numbers of people use the park's beaches. The Commission classified the park's tidelands, along with a small wedge of land along Highway 101, as a Resource Recreation Area. This classification allows the planting of shellfish and management of the tidelands for harvest. In addition to permitted activities, the Commission has conditionally approved power boating and wind surfing activities in the saltwater shoreline/tideland.

Heritage Areas

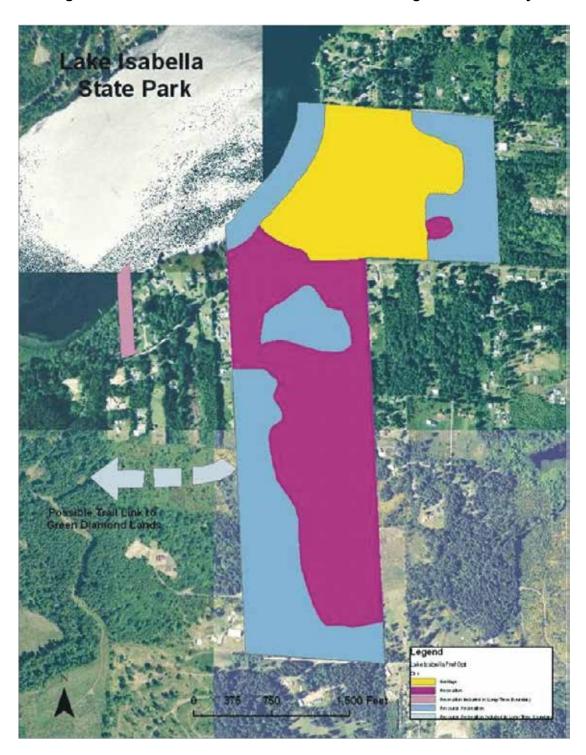
To reflect the park's status as a significant Native American gathering place, the developed day-use portion of the park is classified as a Heritage Area. In addition to permitted activities, the Commission has also approved wind surfing and orienteering.

Lake Isabella

Land Classifications

Lake Isabella is classified as a combination of Recreation, Resource Recreation, and Heritage areas.

Figure 5. Lake Isabella Land Classification and Long-Term Boundary



Recreation Areas

Several areas of Lake Isabella remain significantly disturbed as a result of previous land uses. These areas include a portion of the property south of Delight Park Road, as well as two smaller areas on the western and eastern sides of the hayfield north of the road. Focusing future development in these disturbed areas would minimize impacts on sensitive resources. Therefore, the Commission classified these areas as Recreation to provide flexibility for future park planning and development. This classification allows for trails and related trailhead and camping facilities as part of future planning and development. The long-term boundary includes a proposed Recreation Area that is currently a developed boat launch managed by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. State Parks ownership or management of this site would improve efficiency in managing state resources in the area.

Resource Recreation Areas

The park's shoreline, wetlands, and mature forest stands provide limited opportunities for recreation, such as trails and swimming, as well as habitat for fish and wildlife. These areas are classified as Resource Recreation to permit existing trail activities and allow trails, and other minimal facilities as part of future planning and development. Within the park's long-term boundary, the Commission classified a Resource Recreation Area that would include an easement through private property to link the western park boundary with nearby lands owned by Green Diamond Resource Company. This classification would allow for a trail link between the park and Green Diamond's trail network as part of future trails planning and development.

Heritage Areas

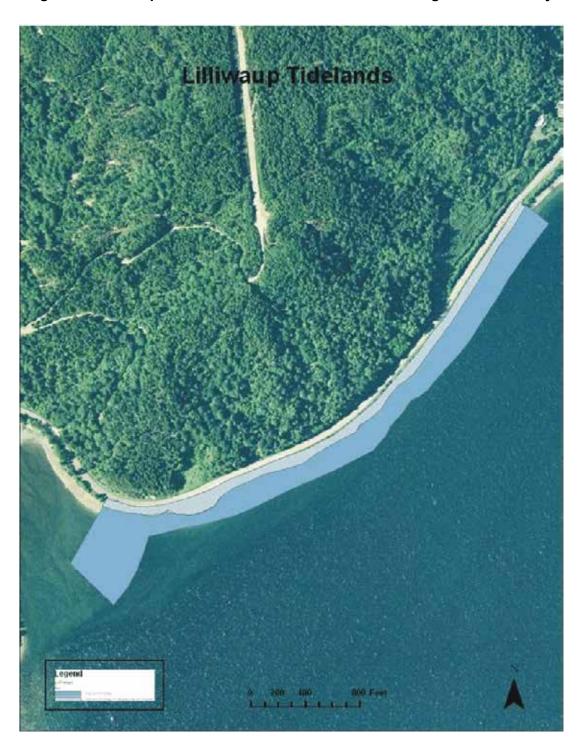
To reflect the property's status as one of the original homesteads in Mason County, the park's homestead site, surrounding hayfields and heritage orchards are classified as Heritage. This classification would allow trail development as part of future trail planning. In addition, the Commission has conditionally approved farming/orchards and orienteering in the Heritage Area.

Lilliwaup Tidelands

Land Classifications

Lilliwaup Tidelands is classified as a Resource Recreation Area.

Figure 6. Lilliwaup Tidelands Land Classification and Long-Term Boundary



Resource Recreation Area

The entire park consists of beaches and tidelands, which are the park's recreation attraction. Visitors access these areas on foot from an upland parking area and by private boats – both hand propelled and powered – to harvest shellfish, beach comb, picnic, and enjoy other traditional beach activities. The Commission classified the entire park as a Resource Recreation Area, to permit existing uses to continue. In addition to permitted uses, the Commission conditionally permitted power boating and wind surfing activities in the saltwater shoreline/tidelands. A portion of the Highway 101 right-of-way adjacent to Lilliwaup Tidelands is included within the park's long-term boundary to foster improved recreation management.

SECTION 5: PARK ISSUES AND MANAGEMENT APPROACHES

The tables below are a listing of park management issues identified through the public planning process. There is a table for each state park or property and the issues are divided into natural, cultural and recreational related issues when applicable. The left column describes the issue and the right describes the recommended management approach. These tables will be used to guide future management decisions for the area.

Readers should note that the sum of all of the management approaches represents a significant staff workload and may also create very high expectations among agency staff and park stakeholders. Clearly, completing or even beginning all approaches in the short-term is not feasible with existing resources. This plan should be seen as a "to do" list where items will be prioritized as staff and financial resources permit.

Belfair State Park

Belfair – Natural Res	ource Issues
Issue	Management Approach
Protection of native plant and animal communities – uplands, shoreline, and intertidal areas	 Classify salt marsh areas of shoreline as natural area to limit use and development to low-intensity. Classify intertidal areas as Resource Recreation to permit shellfish enhancement and improve recreational shellfish harvest. Include nearby WDFW property in the park's long-term boundary to unify management of shoreline under agency. Develop an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM) that incorporates removal of non-native plant species and re-vegetation with native species. Develop a Hood Canal health monitoring program to monitor water quality, oversee improvements or degradation of the local water quality, and propose specific management treatments to ensure water quality goals are met.
Coordination with other natural resource groups and public involvement	 Establish a program, such as Nature Mapping (volunteer stewardship program), to begin a census of wildlife and bird populations. Establish regular resource management forums to increase coordination among conservation organizations, fish and shellfish organizations, private industry, and the public. Establish a Belfair State Park volunteer stewardship training program to continue restoration work at the park.
Sustainability	 Develop a park sustainability plan that addresses operational functions and park facilities. Develop a park-wide system for recycling and on-site composting where visitors are engaged in the active demonstration of a sustainable living environment.
Public education/ interpretation	 Develop an expanded interpretive master plan for all the parks adjoining Hood Canal that includes on-site and school-based education programs. Work with agencies and tribes to develop a coordinated on-going program. Develop a volunteer stewardship program, beach walks, and restoration projects. Develop in-park interpretation and community presentations representing the restoration program at the park.
Tree care in developed areas	 Coordinate with agency forester to assess tree health in developed park areas and remove unhealthy trees as necessary. Work with the local community and schools to promote Arbor Day in the park.
Shellfish management, harvest and public education	 Classify intertidal areas as Resource Recreation to permit shellfish enhancement and stocking. Continue to work with WDFW to set shellfish seasons, explore enhancement opportunities, and enforce harvest regulations. Continue to work with the WDOH on shellfish disease and contamination issues. Work to connect park visitors / travelers with a "hot-line" for shellfish schedules, limits, etc Establish a system of signage for fish and shellfish harvest information that explains the management considerations and closure rationale. Have an ongoing beach interpretive program that would emphasize restorative principles and marine life management.

Belfair – Cultural Resource Issues		
Issue	Management Approach	
Protection and management of historic and cultural resources	 Research and develop a Cultural Resource Management Plan, which would gather needed historical information and foster educational programs within the park. Continue to consult with tribes that may have an interest in the archaeological and cultural resources in the park. Conduct archaeological surveys prior to any development activities. 	
	 State Parks staff will follow the direction contained in the agency's Cultural Resources Policy 12-98-1. 	
Cultural resource education/ interpretation	 Develop an expanded interpretive master plan for all the parks adjoining Hood Canal that includes on-site and school-based education programs. Work with agencies and tribes to develop a coordinated on-going program. Construct and maintain an amphitheatre for interpretive programs and cultural demonstrations. Involve Navy personnel with programs about their operations in Puget 	
	 Sound. Invite Skokomish Tribe to provide programs and visitor interpretation of winter village site and salmon migration. State Parks staff will follow the direction contained in the agency's Interpretive Policy 50-10-1 	

Belfair – Recreationa	al Resource/Facility Issues
Issue	Management Approach
Recreational facility development	 Classify upland areas of the park and park manager residence as Recreation Areas to allow for retention of existing recreational and administrative facilities and uses. Keep future development away from the riparian, shoreline, and forested areas. Consider more active recreation facilities, including: renovated playground, horse shoe pits, basketball courts or other intensive recreation activities in areas away from riparian, shoreline, or forested areas. Add an enclosed picnic shelter for use as meeting space in addition to picnics and other special events. Monitor the noise limits in the park to maintain the natural park environment.
Camping facilities and camping experience	 Prepare a campground master plan/business plan to determine optimal number and appropriate mix of utility, standard, and primitive sites and address parking for second vehicles. Consider reducing the number of campsites to promote re-vegetation of campground and allow more natural and space buffers between family camping areas. Develop plan for property north of Highway 300. Consider additional RV camping and administrative support facilities. Pursue crosswalk, speed limit reduction, or other safety measure in conjunction with any development. Explore additional camping opportunities on nearby public lands (e.g., Tahuya State Forest) Encourage City of Belfair to integrate RV dump station into their planned sewage treatment facility.

Belfair - Recreational	Resource/Facility Issues
Issue	Management Approach
Trails	 Work in partnership with Theler Wetlands managers to explore trail corridor or recreational easements that connect Belfair State Park and the Theler Wetlands. Seek more trail opportunities within the park or nearby public lands, such as Tahuya State Forest.
	 Develop trail to direct pedestrian access to salt marsh environment and add an interpretive opportunity.
Water access site	 Acquire WDFW property west of the park to provide additional day use water access.
Recreational programs	 Develop more recreational programs and cultural events throughout the year. State Parks staff will follow the direction given in RCW 79A.05.030(6) and WAC 352-32-285 to allow volunteers to perform personal services in lieu of standard fees.

Twanoh State Park

ce Issues
agement Approach
classify the upland watershed area of the park as a mix of Resource Recreation and Natural Area to emphasize natural resource protection. Classify central swath of park south of the campground up into the vatershed as Resource Recreation to allow establishment of shared use rails. Classify eastern slopes of watershed above campground as Natural area, limiting trail activities to low-intensity pedestrian use only. Include remaining undeveloped properties within Twanoh Creek vatershed within the park's long-term boundary to extend habitat, water unality protection, and recreational opportunities. Develop vegetation management plan to manage non-native invasive lant species and maximize function of natural systems. Develop a native plant garden for interpretation purposes and stock for inlanting in the developed areas of the park conduct a forest health assessment and a replanting plan for forest nanagement. Develop habitat and bird population management plan as part of forest nanagement prescriptions. Establish a program, such as Nature Mapping (volunteer stewardship rogram), to begin a census of wildlife and bird populations. Develop guidelines for low impact facility design including: permeable arking surfaces, vegetation planting. Develop a native planting plan for the existing camping area to promote developed and allow for buffers between campsites.

Twanoh – Natural Re	esource Issues
Issue	Management Approach
Management of shoreline and intertidal areas	 Consider removing bulkhead to allow for more natural shoreline and water access while still protecting recreational function of the day-use area. With consideration of global climate change effects on Hood Canal sea level, develop a plan that identifies areas and facilities at risk and develop alternatives for relocation or redesign. Redesign existing parking to allow a wider stream delta to the extent practical while preserving essential recreational facilities. Redesign existing parking areas to allow more stormwater infiltration, incorporating use of pervious surface treatments, bioswales, and rain gardens where appropriate. Establish a baseline study for current water quality conditions and a testing and reporting system to oversee improvements or degradation. Monitor improved sewage system and stormwater discharge qualities. Restore riparian buffer with native species and replenish native plant understory in developed park areas to provide habitat. Develop a volunteer stewardship program, beach walks, and restoration projects.
Shellfish management, harvest and public education	 Continue to work with WDFW to set shellfish seasons, explore enhancement opportunities, and enforce harvest regulations. Continue to work with the WDOH on shellfish disease and contamination issues. Work to connect park visitors/travelers with a "hot-line" for shellfish schedules, limits, etc Establish a system of signage for fish and shellfish harvest information that explains the management considerations and closure rationale. Have an ongoing beach interpretive program that would emphasize restorative principles and marine life management.
Coordination with other conservation organizations and tribes	 Partner with HCCC, WDFW, and other experts to establish best management practices for the shoreline and estuary system within the park. Involve the local tribes, Department of Ecology, and the Hood Canal Coordinating Council in planning for the watershed and to help manage erosion and flooding concerns in the developed areas of the park. Hold regular resource management forums to increase coordination among conservation organizations, fish and shellfish organizations, private industry and the public.
Sustainability	 Develop a park sustainability plan that addresses operational functions and park facilities. Determine which recommendations from the 2007 Green Vision Plan Concept Report to implement. Develop a park-wide system for recycling and on-site composting where visitors are engaged in the active demonstration of a sustainable living environment.
Public education/ interpretation/ stewardship	 Develop a volunteer stewardship program, beach walks, and restoration projects. Develop an interpretive master plan for all the parks adjoining Hood Canal that would include on-site programs and school education connections. Work with agencies and tribes to develop a coordinated program and recreational opportunities. Develop in-park interpretation and community presentations representing the restoration program at the park

Twanoh – Natural Resource Issues		
Issue	Management Approach	
Shellfish; public education, management and harvest	 Work to connect park visitors with a "hot-line" for shellfish schedules, limits, etc. Have an ongoing beach interpretive program that would emphasize restoration principles and marine life management. Continue to work with WDFW to set shellfish seasons, explore enhancement opportunities, and enforce harvest regulations. Continue to work with the WDOH on shellfish disease and contamination issues. 	

Twanoh – Cultural Resource Issues	
Issue	Management Approach
Civilian Conservation	Prepare a nomination for the National Register of Historic Places for the
Corps (CCC) heritage	complex of CCC structures.
	Develop a Cultural Resource Management Plan for the park to assess the condition of the CCC structures and understand the CCC park design. This will influence any future design, expansion, or addition of facilities at the park. This plan should include a Cultural Landscape Inventory and Historic Structures Reports for the park's buildings and structures.
	Prepare site and architecture design guidelines to ensure rehabilitations and new developments harmonize and are consistent with preservation of the historic landscape and built environment.
	 Consider adaptive reuse of CCC buildings which are no longer used for their historic purposes.
	 Work to recruit and train skilled volunteers who can work on CCC restoration projects.
Public education/ stewardship/ interpretation	Develop education and interpretive displays and programs which inform the visiting public about CCC heritage and the structures representing their work. Work to get staff training in CCC construction and restarction.
	 Work to get staff training in CCC construction and restoration.

Twanoh - Recreation	al Resource/Facility Issues
Issue	Management Approach
Maintain rustic	Maintain rustic camping experience with noise monitoring
experience	 Partner with local community groups to encourage volunteer labor for
	stewardship and restoration projects.
	 Keep historic bathrooms up to date for cleanliness and functionality.
Park facility	 Work with Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) to
management	explore options for safer pedestrian crossing at Highway 106.
	 Encourage local community to contribute to park facility projects.
	 Invite visitor feedback to support park upgrades and improvements.
Camping facilities and	Enhance water trail camping site.
camping experience	 Preserve a rustic camping experience by keeping areas of the
	campground non-electrical.
	 Keep the existing recreational development footprint as is and provide
	more utility sites in nearby state parks.
	 Consider converting existing campsites or buildings to cabins or yurts for
	overnight accommodations.
Trails	 Work to acquire property and recreational use easements in the upper
	watershed adjacent to the park that would provide for more upland hiking
	trails.
	Work with Mason County and WSDOT to improve bicycle travel on Hwy
	106 for safe recreation experience.
Marine facilities:	Research the feasibility of year-round boat dock at the boat launch.

Twanoh – Recreational Resource/Facility Issues	
Issue	Management Approach
boat dock/swimming area	 Check functioning of marine pump out station. Regularly monitor proper operation.
	Provide ADA access facilities to the beach area.
	 Explore restoring natural habitat functions to the CCC wading pool.

Potlatch State Park

Potlatch – Natural Resource Issues	
Issue	Management Approach
Preservation of native plant and animal communities	 Emphasize management of the park for recreational use while still providing adequate protection to natural and cultural resources. Specific measures may include: ✓ Remove non-native plant species from undeveloped areas and rehabilitate native plant communities ✓ Restore Potlatch Creek to improve salmonid habitat
Interpretation/environ- mental education opportunities	 Develop a park interpretive master plan using primarily park staff and volunteers to complete. As part of park interpretive master plan, design and construct a modest interpretive network for the park utilizing at most interpretive kiosks, signs, and non-facilities oriented programming (brochures etc.). Specifically, the plan should address the opportunities for interpreting shellfish resources, Hood Canal water quality, and Native American history. Establish a volunteer interpreter/steward program to aid with park interpretive and stewardship efforts. Actively solicit partnerships with regional school district and Washington Sea Grant to provide environmental education opportunities.
Shellfish resources/ management	 Continue to work with WDFW to set shellfish seasons, explore enhancement opportunities, and enforce harvest regulations. Continue to work with the WDOH on shellfish disease and contamination issues.
Recycling	 Develop a park sustainability plan. Work with agency sustainability coordinator to improve recycling efforts at the park.

Potlatch – Cultural Resource Issues	
Issue	Management Approach
Protection of Native American cultural and archaeological sites	 Continue to consult with tribes that may have an interest in the archaeological and cultural resources in the state park. Conduct archaeological surveys prior to any development activities. State Parks staff will follow the direction contained in the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission's Cultural Resources Policy 12-98-1.
Partnership opportunities	 Actively partner with Skokomish Tribe on cultural events at park (e.g. 2007 Tuwaduq Days) Explore partnerships with other local groups to improve stewardship and educational opportunities in park.

Potlatch – Recreational Resource/Facility Issues	
Issue	Management Approach
Recreational facilities development - campground	 On recently acquired Minerva Beach property, explore opportunities for providing campsites for larger RV's. Evaluate the need for additional RV hook-ups in the area. Consider separating hook-up and standard sites to the extent possible to accommodate different camping styles.
Recreational facilities development - boating	 Acquire Saltwater Boat Launch from Tacoma City Light. Consider the need for expanded Water Trails camping at Potlatch and other Hood Canal state parks.
Recreational facilities development - diving	 Include outdoor shower facilities in the design of any new day-use comfort station. Work with Washington SCUBA Alliance and other diving partners to clean up underwater debris and monitor/control invasive species.
Renovation of park facilities and infrastructure	 Re-design park sewage system as part of effort to clean up Hood Canal. Investigate potential for establishing rain gardens to manage run-off from impermeable surfaces. Re-evaluate park vehicular circulation system.
Beach access	 Ensure barrier-free access point to beach in compliance with ADA. Explore need for a fishing pier at the Saltwater Boat Launch (if acquired). Limit beach access points to prevent trampling of native shoreline vegetation.
Trail use, development	 Work with Port of Hoodsport and other local groups to explore opportunities for regional trail connections.
Noise management	 Strictly enforce park regulations regarding the use of sound-emitting electronic equipment (WAC 352-32-056).
Partnership opportunities	 Actively seek volunteers and community partners to assist with park projects. State Parks staff will follow the direction given in RCW 79A.05.030(6) and WAC 352-32-285 to allow volunteers to perform personal services in lieu of standard fees.
Pet waste management	 Enforce park regulations regarding pet waste (WAC 352-32-060 (6)). Explore opportunities to provide bags for collecting pet waste.

Lake Isabella

Lake Isabella – Natu	ral Resource Issues
Issue	Management Approach
Preservation of native plant and animal communities.	 Emphasize management of the park for natural/cultural resource protection, while still providing opportunities for recreational development. Specific measures may include: ✓ Develop an Integrated Pest Management Plan for addressing noxious weed issues. ✓ Maintain a mix of habitats (mature forest, wetlands, open areas) to support a diversity of wildlife. ✓ Identify areas with highly significant natural resources and focus protective management on these areas (e.g. shoreline, buffers around eagle nests). ✓ Develop a forest health management plan.
Sustainability	 Develop a park sustainability plan. Work with agency sustainability coordinator to seek funds for safe removal of abandoned vehicles.

Lake Isabella – Cultural Resource Issues	
Issue	Management Approach
Protection of agricultural heritage	 Work with partners to continue managing heritage orchards/hay fields and exploring opportunities for education, interpretation and demonstration of the site's agricultural heritage. Develop a cultural resource inventory/report. Establish interpretive panels highlighting the cultural heritage of the site.
Tribal involvement	 Continue to consult with tribes that may have an interest in the archaeological and cultural resources in the state park. Conduct archaeological surveys prior to any development activities. State Parks staff will follow the direction contained in the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission's Cultural Resources Policy 12-98-1.

Lake Isabella – Recreational Resource/Facility Issues	
Issue	Management Approach
Recreational facilities development – lake access	 Construct improved accessible trail(s) and clear selected vegetation to provide water access. Consider the development of a pier for swimming access. Partner with WDFW to make improvements to existing boat launch. Maintain native shoreline vegetation and natural processes to the maximum extent possible.
Recreational facilities development – general	 Explore opportunities to provide parking, restrooms, picnic shelters, disc golf course, off-leash dog area, water access and/or a meeting space for environmental education. South of Delight Park Rd., explore the possibility of providing camping. Ensure all facilities are universally accessible to the maximum extent possible.

Lake Isabella – Recreational Resource/Facility Issues	
Issue	Management Approach
Recreational facilities development – off-leash dog area	 Allow leashed pets in park as permitted under WAC 352-32-060 (1). Classify portions of park as Recreation and Resource Recreation to allow for the potential establishment of an off-leash pet area. Meet with citizen groups to explain policies and procedures for establishing a potential off-leash pet area at park, pursuant to WAC 352-32-060 (7). Consider closing areas to pets if there is evidence of a conflict with wildlife. Enforce park regulations regarding pet waste (WAC 352-32-060 (6)). Explore opportunities to provide bags for collecting pet waste. Work with Mason County Parks to explore opportunities for dog parks in the county.
Trail use, development	 Explore opportunities for new trail development, including mountain bike and equestrian trails. Acquire trail corridor easement to connect park trails with trails on nearby Green Diamond property. Strictly enforce restrictions on motor vehicle use (WAC 352-20-020).

Lilliwaup Tidelands

Lilliwaup Tidelands – Recreational Resource/Facility Issues	
Issue	Management Approach
Recreational facilities development	Work with WSDOT to ensure adequate rest stop facilities in the area.

APPENDIX A: WASHINGTON STATE PARKS LAND CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

Washington Administrative Code Establishing Land Classification System

WAC 352-16-020 Land classification system. State park areas are of statewide natural, cultural, and/or recreational significance and/or outstanding scenic beauty. They provide varied facilities serving low-intensity, medium intensity, and high intensity outdoor recreation activities, areas reserved for preservation, scientific research, education, public assembly, and/or environmental interpretation, and support facilities. They may be classified in whole or part as follows:

- (1) Recreational areas are suited and/or developed for high-intensity outdoor recreational use, conference, cultural and/or educational centers, or other uses serving large numbers of people.
- (2) Resource recreation areas are suited and/or developed for natural and/or cultural resource-based medium-intensity and low-intensity outdoor recreational use.
- (3) Natural areas are designated for preservation, restoration, and interpretation of natural processes and/or features of significant ecological, geological or paleontological value while providing for low-intensity outdoor recreation activities as subordinate uses.
- (4) Heritage areas are designated for preservation, restoration, and interpretation of unique or unusual archaeological, historical, scientific, and/or cultural features, and traditional cultural properties, which are of statewide or national significance.
- (5) Natural forest areas are designated for preservation, restoration, and interpretation of natural forest processes while providing for low-intensity outdoor recreation activities as subordinate uses, and which contain:
- (a) Old-growth forest communities that have developed for one hundred fifty years or longer and have the following structural characteristics: Large old-growth trees, large snags, large logs on land, and large logs in streams; or
- (b) Mature forest communities that have developed for ninety years or longer; or
- (c) Unusual forest communities and/or interrelated vegetative communities of significant ecological value.
- (6) Natural area preserves are designated for preservation of rare or vanishing flora, fauna, geological, natural historical or similar features of scientific or educational value and which are registered and committed as a natural area preserve through a cooperative agreement with an appropriate natural resource agency pursuant to chapter 79.70 RCW and chapter 332-60 WAC.

WAC 352-16-030 Management within land classifications. (1) The director shall develop management guidelines for each land classification listed in WAC 352-16-020. The guidelines shall provide specific direction for each classification, outlining the philosophy of each classification, its appropriate physical features, location, allowed and prohibited activities, and allowed and prohibited developments. (2) Nothing in this section shall be construed to allow uses that are otherwise prohibited, nor prohibit uses that are otherwise expressly allowed, by the commission, this code, or by statute.

Land Classification Management Guidelines Recreation Areas

TITLE	DEFINITION	PHILOSOPHY	PHYSICAL FEATURES	LOCATION	ACTIVITIES	DEVELOPMENTS
Washington State Parks Recreation Areas	State Parks Recreation Areas are suited and/or developed for high-intensity outdoor recreational use, conference, cultural and/or educational centers, or other uses serving large numbers of people.	State Parks Recreation Areas are to respond to the human needs for readily available areas for outdoor recreation and facilities to congregate for education, artistic expression and other ennobling pursuits. They are to provide a variety of outdoor recreational, educational, artistic, and cultural opportunities to large numbers of participants. Primary emphasis is on the provision of quality recreational services and facilities with secondary recognition given to protection of the areas natural qualities.	State Parks Recreation Areas physiographic features such as topography, soil type, drainage, etc., shall be adaptable to varied types of intensive uses and development. An attractive natural setting is desirable, however, human- made settings are acceptable. There are no specific size criteria.	State Parks Recreation Areas generally are made, not found. They shall be located throughout the state with primary emphasis to service major centers of urban populations and/or outstanding recreational tourist attractions. Scenic and inspirational values shall be considered but are secondary to the site adaptability and population criteria. When part of a large diverse park, recreation areas should be sited in proximity to public roads and utilities.	State Parks Recreation Areas may allow and provide for a wide variety of indoor and outdoor day, weekend and vacation activities. Provision may be made for high intensity participation in camping, picnicking, trail use, water sports, winter sports, group field games, and other activities for many people Off-trail equestrian and/or bicycle use may be appropriate in selected areas if approved by the commission. Activities requiring high levels of social interaction are encouraged.	State Parks Recreation Areas shall provide appropriate facilities and services for the participation and enjoyment of high concentrations of outdoor recreationists and/or participants in indoor educational, cultural and artistic activities. A high degree of development is anticipated. Facilities may include road and parking networks, swimming beaches, full service marinas, trails, bathhouses, artificial lakes and pools, play fields, large sanitary and eating facilities; standard and utility campgrounds, stores, picnic grounds, group shelters, conference centers, environmental learning centers, hostels, and administrative support facilities.

Land Classification Management Guidelines Resource Recreation Areas

TITLE	DEFINITION	PHILOSOPHY	PHYSICAL FEATURES	LOCATION	ACTIVITIES	DEVELOPMENTS
Washington State Parks Resource Recreation Areas	State Parks Resource Recreation Areas are suited and/or developed for natural and/or cultural resource-based medium- and lowintensity recreational use.	State Parks Resource Recreation Areas are sites where the high quality of a particular natural or cultural resource or set of such resources is the lure for human recreation. Thus, the rationale for recreation is based on the value of attractive natural or cultural resources. Management of these areas must stress the centrality of preserving the quality of the natural and cultural resources while allowing appropriate and sustainable levels of human use and enjoyment.	State Parks Resource Recreation Areas have a variety of physiographic features. While they may contain areas of environmental sensitivity, most portions of each area will be able to withstand low- to medium-intensity recreation use without significant environmental degradation.	State Parks Resource Recreation Areas may be located anywhere in the state where natural or cultural factors produce land and water sites particularly suited for recreation in a natural setting. Access to these sites should be reasonably proximate to major urban centers, but some access restriction may be necessary to avoid overuse of resources. Within large diverse parks, these areas should be located at least a moderate distance from public roads and high use intensity areas, while still maintaining reasonable public access for their intended use.	State Parks Resource Recreation Areas provide opportunities for low- and medium-intensity recreational experiences including, but not limited to, picnicking, primitive camping, a variety of recreational trail experiences, interpretive facilities, historic/cultural exhibits, nature observation, photography, orienteering, kayaking, canoeing, floating, and fishing. Off-trail equestrian and/or bicycle use may be appropriate in selected areas if approved by the commission. Basketball, tennis, organized group sporting activities requiring formal sports fields, commercial-sized piers and docks, standard and utility camping, indoor accommodations and centers, developed swimming areas, and other similarly intense uses are not appropriate. Scientific research is permitted.	State Parks Resource Recreation Areas development shall be permitted to the extent necessary to serve allowed activities. Parking, sanitary facilities, and other ancillary developments and support facilities should be constructed in a manner that is consistent with the site's ability to manage environmental change.

Land Classification Management Guidelines Natural Areas

TITLE	DEFINITION	PHILOSOPHY	PHYSICAL FEATURES	LOCATION	ACTIVITIES	DEVELOPMENTS
Washington State Parks Natural Areas	State Parks Natural Areas are designated for preservation, restoration, and interpretation of natural processes and/or features of significant ecological, geological or paleontological value while providing for low-intensity outdoor recreation activities as subordinate uses.	State Parks Natural Areas are to respond to the human need for readily available "conservatories" of nature and open spaces. Emphasis is directed toward nature and the conservation of native flora and fauna, special geologic or paleontologic resources, and the natural amenities of the area. Human wants for other than naturally existing educational and recreational opportunities are considered secondary to nature's requirement for the sustained maintenance of its natural balances, or the preservation of special geologic or paleontologic features.	State Parks Natural Areas have a variety of topography and features to provide a diversified natural environment with interesting but not necessarily unique flora and fauna, or geologic or paleontologic features. Where classification is based on biological considerations, sites should consist of land areas large enough to maintain natural biological processes in a nearly undeveloped state and provide users with a feeling of solitude and tranquility, and an opportunity to view nature in its "uncontrolled" form. They may be partially or wholly on land, subterranean, or part of the marine environment.	State Parks Natural Areas are not "made", but rather currently exist due to historical circumstances that have resulted in little or no human interference in the natural environment. Those areas most desirable in terms of physical features and size usually are "found" and "held" against creeping encroachments and raising land values. They often become over used and "lost" as populations spread around them. As a part of the overall system, these areas should be geographically spread throughout the state. When classifying specific park areas, consideration must be given to the ability to adequately manage the areas against undesirable human encroachment.	State Parks Natural Areas provide opportunities for outdoor recreation on designated trails. Those trails may be developed and used only to the extent that they do not significantly degrade the system of natural processes in a classified area. Hiking, non-groomed cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, or other trail uses of similar impact to natural systems and providing a compatible recreational opportunity, may be permitted, after consultation with appropriate local, state, federal and tribal resource management agencies, and upon a finding by the agency that such trails are not likely to significantly degrade natural processes. Relocation of existing equestrian, bicycle, nordic track or other similar trails into a natural area may be permitted upon a finding by the director that such relocation is for the purpose of reducing overall resource impacts. All trails may be moved, redesigned, closed and/or removed upon a finding that their use is causing significant degradation to the system of natural processes. Technical rock climbing requires authorization by the commission. Off-trail use for nature observation, photography, cross-country skiing, harvesting of mushrooms and berries and similar uses are permitted to the degree that they do not significantly degrade natural processes. Scientific research is permitted.	State Parks Natural Area development shall be limited to facilities required for health, safety and protection of users and features consistent with allowed activities. Facilities to enhance public enjoyment shall be limited to primitive items such as trails, trail structures and minor interpretive exhibits. All improvements shall harmonize with, and not detract from, the natural setting. Parking and other trailhead facilities should be located outside of a classified area.

Land Classification Management Guidelines Heritage Areas

TITLE	DEFINITION	PHILOSOPHY	PHYSICAL FEATURES	LOCATION	ACTIVITIES	DEVELOPMENTS
Washington State Parks Heritage Areas	State Parks Heritage Areas are designated for preservation, restoration, and interpretation of outstanding, unique or unusual archaeological, historical, scientific, and/or cultural features, and traditional cultural properties, which are of statewide or national significance.	State Parks Heritage Areas are designated to preserve and/or interpret selected areas or features for the education and enjoyment of the public, an area's intrinsic cultural value, and/or for scientific research.	State Parks Heritage Areas vary in size and physiographic makeup according to their location and reason for existence. Historic landscapes may require relatively large acreage while archaeological sites may be measured in square feet.	State Parks Heritage Areas usually are located where they are found or the feature exists. However, in some instances relocation or re-creation of artifacts, resources or facilities is possible. In these situations they may be located in appropriate settings and concentrated near major population centers and along primary travel routes.	State Parks Heritage Area activities shall generally be limited to those directly associated with the interpretation of the area or feature, and the education of the patrons. Picnicking, recreational trails, and other low- to medium-intensity recreation uses may be allowed if they do not detract from the principal purpose of the area, its setting, structures, sites and objects.	State Parks Heritage Area development shall generally be limited to that necessary for the protection and interpretation of the area or feature, and the education and safety of the patrons. Sanitary facilities, recreation trails, and picnicking facilities may be provided in a manner which does not detract from the aesthetic, educational or environmental quality of the area, its setting, structures, sites or objects, or, if applicable, its value for scientific research.

Land Classification Management Guidelines Natural Forest Areas

TITLE	DEFINITION	PHILOSOPHY	PHYSICAL FEATURES	LOCATION	ACTIVITIES	DEVELOPMENTS
Washington State Parks Natural Forest Areas	State Parks Natural Forest Areas are designated for preservation, restoration, and interpretation of natural forest processes while providing for low-intensity outdoor recreation activities as subordinate uses, and which contain: (a) Old-growth forest communities that have developed for 150 years or longer and have the following structural characteristics: Large old-growth trees, large snags, large logs on land, and large logs in streams; or (b) Mature forest communities that have developed for 90 years or longer; or Ucommunities and/or interrelated vegetative communities of significant ecological value.	State Parks Natural Forest Areas are places where human access to and interpretation and enjoyment of natural forest processes are limited to those activities and facilities that do not significantly degrade natural forest processes. Public access into these areas emphasizes appreciation of nature through experiencing nature. The principal function of these areas is to assist in maintaining the state's bio-diversity while expanding human understanding and appreciation of natural values.	State Parks Natural Forest Areas have a variety of topographic and vegetative conditions. They are generally large enough (300 or more acres) to contain one or more distinct and relatively intact vegetative communities. Smaller areas may be appropriate if representative of a unique or unusual forest community. Desirably, they are part of a large system of open space, wildlife habitat, and vegetative communities that provide a good opportunity for long-term ecosystem sustainability.	State Parks Natural Forest Areas may be located anywhere in the state where natural factors produce forest vegetative cover. These areas are not "made", but rather currently exist due to historical circumstances that have resulted in little or no human interference in natural forest progression. As a part of an overall system, these areas should be geographically spread throughout the state, recognizing that maintenance of bio-diversity is one of the primary functions of their classification. When classifying specific park areas, consideration must be given to the ability to adequately manage the areas against undesirable human encroachment.	State Parks Natural Forest Areas provide opportunities for outdoor recreation on designated recreation trails. Those trails may be developed and used only to the extent that they do not significantly degrade the system of natural forest processes in a classified area. Careful design of recreation trails should match intended uses, to maintain consistency with the purpose and philosophy of the classification. Hiking, non-groomed cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, or other trail uses of similar impact to natural systems and providing a compatible recreational opportunity, may be permitted, after consultation with appropriate local, state, federal and tribal resource management agencies, and upon a finding by the agency that such trails are not likely to significantly degrade natural forest processes. Relocation of existing equestrian, bicycle, nordic track or other similar trails into a natural forest area may be permitted upon a finding by the director that such relocation is for the purpose of reducing overall resource impacts. All trails may be moved, redesigned, closed and/or removed upon a finding that they are causing significant degradation to the system of natural forest processes. Technical rock climbing requires authorization by the commission. Off-trail use for nature observation, cross-country skiing, photography, harvesting of mushrooms and berries and similar uses are permitted to the degree that they do not significantly degrade natural forest processes. Scientific research is permitted.	State Parks Natural Forest Areas development shall be limited to facilities required for health, safety and protection of users and features consistent with_allowed activities. Facilities to enhance public enjoyment shall be limited to trails, trail structures, and minor interpretive exhibits. All improvements shall harmonize with, and not detract from, the natural setting. Parking and other trailhead facilities should be located outside of a classified area.

Land Classification Management Guidelines Natural Area Preserves

TITLE	DEFINITION	PHILOSOPHY	PHYSICAL FEATURES	LOCATION	ACTIVITIES	DEVELOPMENTS
Washington State Parks Natural Area Preserves	State Parks Natural Area Preserves are designated for preservation of rare or vanishing flora, fauna, geological, natural historical or similar features of scientific or educational value and which are registered and committed as a natural area preserve through a cooperative agreement with an appropriate natural resource agency pursuant to chapter 79.70 RCW and chapter 332-60 WAC.	State Parks Natural Area Preserves are sites where human access is limited to educational and scientific purposes. The principal function of these areas is to preserve natural ecosystems or geologic features of statewide significance. Public access for recreation must be subordinate to the principal function of the classification.	State Parks Natural Area Preserves have a variety of topographic and vegetative conditions. They are generally large enough (300 or more acres) to contain one or more distinct and intact ecological communities. Smaller areas may be appropriate if representative of a unique or unusual ecological community or geologic feature. They may be partially or wholly on land, subterranean, or part of the marine environment. Desirably, they are part of a large system of open space, wildlife habitat, and vegetative communities that provide a good opportunity for long- term ecosystem sustainability.	State Parks Natural Area Preserves may be located anywhere in the state where natural ecological systems or significant geologic features exist. These areas are not "made", but rather exist due to historical circumstances that have resulted in little or no human interference in the natural system. As a part of an overall system, these areas should be geographically spread throughout the state.	State Parks Natural Area Preserves provide opportunities for scientific research and education about natural systems, geologic features, sensitive, rare, threatened or endangered species or communities. Recreational use of existing or relocated trails may be permitted, provided that it can be clearly demonstrated that such use does not degrade the system of natural processes occurring in the preserve. Otherwise, trails are limited to administrative, scientific and organized educational activities and uses. No other activities are permitted.	State Parks Natural Area Preserves development shall be limited to access facilities for permitted activities and structures to inhibit general public access. No other facilities or structures are permitted.

Land Use and Land Classification Compatibility Matrix – Facilities

	Recreation	Resource Recreation	Heritage	Natural/Natural Forest Area	Natural Area Preserve*
Amphitheater	Р	С	С	N	N
Archery/Target Range	С	С	N	N	N
Camping - Std and Util	Р	N	N	N	N
Camping - Primitive	Р	Р	С	N	N
Camping - Adirondack	Р	С	N	N	N
Camping - Horse-oriented	С	С	N	N	N
Camping - Water Trail	Р	Р	С	N	N
Children's Play Area	Р	С	С	N	N
Day Use Picnic - Tables	Р	Р	С	N	N
Day Use Picnic - Group Shelter	Р	N	С	N	N
Day Use Lodges/Centers	Р	N	С	N	N
Environmental Learning Centers	С	N	С	N	N
Equestrian Facilities	С	С	С	N	N
Fields - Informal Play/Mowed	Р	С	С	N	N
Indoor Accommodations	Р	N	С	N	N
Interpretive - Centers	Р	N	Р	N	N
Interpretive - Kiosks	Р	Р	Р	С	N
Interpretive Trail	Р	P	Р	Р	С
Interpretive - Signs	Р	Р	Р	Р	С
Parking - Vehicles	Р	P	С	N	N
Roads	Р	Р	С	N	N

Land Use and Land Classification Compatibility Matrix – Facilities (Continued)

	Recreation	Resource Recreation	Heritage	Natural/Natural Forest Area	Natural Area Preserve*
Sanitary: Comfort Stations	Р	N	С	N	N
Sanitary: Composting/Vault	Р	Р	С	С	N
Sports Fields	С	N	N	N	N
Skiing - Alpine Facilities	С	С	N	N	N
Swimming Facilities	Р	N	С	N	N
Trails - Hiking	Р	Р	Р	Р	С
Trails - Mountain Biking	Р	С	С	N**	N
Trails - Equestrian	С	С	С	N**	N
Trails - Nordic Track Skiing	Р	Р	С	N**	N
Trails - C-C skiing	Р	Р	Р	Р	С
Trails - Snowmobile	Р	С	С	N**	N
Trails - Paved non-motor	Р	С	С	С	N
Water: Docks/Piers > 10 boats	Р	N	С	N	N
Water: Docks/Piers - < 10 boats	Р	Р	С	С	N
Water: Launch Ramps	Р	С	N	N	N
Water: Hand Launch Areas	Р	Р	С	С	N
Water: Mooring Buoys	Р	P	С	С	N

P (Permitted) - Use permitted with normal agency design review

C (Conditional) - Use may be permitted, but conditioned to assure design is compatible w/purpose of land classification and abutting classification objectives.

N (Not Permitted)- Use not permitted.

NA - Not Applicable

^{*} All uses in a Natural Area Preserve must be specifically approved by the Park and Recreation Commission as part of a management plan.

**Relocation of existing trails into a natural or natural forest area is permitted per WAC 352-32-070(3) and WAC 352-32-075(2)(b).

Land Use and Land Classification Compatibility Matrix – Activities

	Recreation	Resource Recreation	Heritage	Natural/Natural Forest Area	Natural Area Preserve*
Farming/Orchards	С	С	С	N	N
Filming/Special Events	Р	Р	Р	С	N
Grazing	С	С	С	N	N
Harvesting - Edible Fruiting Bodies	Р	Р	Р	Р	N
Harvesting - Mushrooms	Р	Р	Р	Р	N
Harvesting - Shellfish	Р	Р	Р	Р	N
Harvesting - Fish	Р	Р	Р	Р	N
Harvesting - Algae, etc.	Р	Р	Р	Р	N
Haying	Р	Р	Р	N	N
Metal Detecting	Р	Р	С	N	N
Orienteering	Р	Р	С	N	N
Ocean Beach Driving	Р	С	N	N	N
Off-Trail: Equestrian	С	С	С	N	N
Off-Trail: Hiking	Р	Р	Р	P	N
Off-trail biking	С	С	С	N	N
Paragliding	Р	Р	С	N	N
Technical Rock Climbing	Р	Р	С	С	N

Land Use and Land Classification Compatibility Matrix – Activities (Continued)

	Recreation	Resource Recreation	Heritage	Natural/Natural Forest Area	Natural Area Preserve*
Water: Jet Skiing	Р	С	N	N	N
Water: Kayak/Canoeing	Р	Р	Р	С	N
Water: Power Boating	Р	С	N	С	N
Water: White Water Boating	Р	Р	С	С	N
Water: Sailing	Р	Р	Р	С	N
Water: Skiing	Р	С	N	N	N
Water: Swimming	Р	Р	Р	Р	N
Water: Wind Surfing	Р	С	С	N	N
Winter: Alpine Skiing	С	С	N	N	N
Winter: C-C Skiing (off-trail)	Р	Р	Р	Р	С
Winter: Mushing/Sled Dogs	С	С	С	N	N
Winter: Snowshoeing	Р	Р	Р	Р	С
Winter: Snowmobiling (off-trail)	Р	Р	С	N	N
Wood Debris Collection	Р	Р	Р	N	N

P (Permitted) - Use permitted with normal agency design review

C (Conditional) - Use may be permitted with Commission concurrence, but conditioned to assure compatibility w/purpose of land classification and abutting classifications. N (Not Permitted)- Use not permitted.

NA - Not Applicable

^{*} All uses in a Natural Area Preserve must be specifically approved by the Park and Recreation Commission as part of a management plan.

^{**}Relocation of existing trails into a natural or natural forest area is permitted per WAC 352-32-070(3) and WAC 352-32-075(2)(b).

APPENDIX B: LISTING OF RESOURCE INVENTORIES AND OTHER DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION



Under Construction! Listing of resource inventories and other descriptive documents will be expanded as information is gathered.

Title	Author	Date	Location
Green Vision Plan	Jones & Jones Architects and Landscape Architects, Ltd.	June 2007	SW Region Stewardship files
Rare Plant and Vegetation Survey of Belfair and Twanoh State Parks	Pacific Biodiversity Institute	February 2007	N:\Park Information\Biological Surveys\Belfair
Lake Isabella State Park Vegetation Survey Report	URS Corporation	January 2009	N:\Park Information\Biological Surveys\Lake Isabella-Sat to Potlatch
Potlatch State Park Vegetation Survey Report	URS Corporation	March 2009	N:\Park Information\Biological Surveys\Potlatch
Hood Canal and Eastern Strait of Juan de Fuca Summer Chum Salmon Recovery Plan	Hood Canal Coordinating Council	November 2005	http://hccc.wa.gov/Salmon+Recovery/SummerChumSalmonPlan/default.aspx